THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) Yes, Sir. After the Bagdigi Colliery accident which took place on 2.2.2001, the Ministry of Labour *vide* notification dated 1.3.2001 has constituted a Court of Inquiry under the Chairmanship of Sh. Justice Gurusharan Sharma, Judge High Court of Jharkhand to inquire into the causes and the circumstances attending the accident and to fix responsibility for the causes leading to the accident.

(b) to (d) While long term safety measures to be implemented in the mines in the aftermath of this accident can be taken up only after the Court of Inquiry submits its recommendation, for the present instructions to all Chief Executives of mining companies have been given to conduct check surveys of the maps and confirm their accuracy to ensure that proper precautions are taken and existing instructions are followed in all such mines which are adjacent to waterlogged workings.

Accidents in mines

2947. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents that took place in public and private sector mines during the period 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 and the number of casualties as a result thereof; and

(b) the compensation given to family members of the deceased and the injured mine workers during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The number of accidents and casualties

that took place in public and private sector mines during the period 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is as under:

Year	Sector	No. of fatal accidents	No. of serious acci-dents	No. of persons killed	No. of persons seriously injured
1998-99	Public	147	691	164	745
	Private	29	72	37	76
	Total	176	763	201	821
1999-2000	Public	139	653	159	716
	Private	52	63	63	78
	Total	191	716	222	794
2000-2001	Public	102	486	151	517
	Private	44	47	48	53
	Total	146	533	199	570

(b) The compensation to family members of the deceased and the injured of mine workers during the period 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is given as per provisions of the Workman's Compensation Act.

Death from occupational diseases

2948. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the numbers of mines in public and private sector which are facing slow death from occupational diseases like asbestosis, silicosis, by sinosis, pneumoconiosis and other dust related diseases;

(b) the safety/preventive measures taken to safeguard the workers; and

(c) the average earnings of each worker in the mines?